

Douglas

WORLD'S



CRESSSET

"Ponder the path of thy feet and let all thy Ways be Established" Prov. 4-26

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WORLD'S CRESSSET

POLITICAL

FIELD

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INCULCATION.

It is our wish to inculcate in the minds of every one who may read this short article, that Odd-fellowship and Freemasonry is inseparable. For there is hundred of men who belong to both orders. Then it would almost be a thing impossible to take from the man that has both on and leave the other with him. And they are both founded on the principals which Christ left here for men and woman to love and practice. They are the principals which if lived up to will establish peace like a flowing river, and will establish a universal Brotherhood.

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A TRAVELER TO JERICO

Once in the life of Christ while here on earth he set forth this fact in order to show a man his friends and neighbor. Christ first said there was a man going from Jerusalem to Jerico, and that he fell among thieves and the thieves striped him of his raiment, and left him wounded and dying. And while in his sad condition, a priest passed by that way looked on the wounded man, and passed on and did not help him; Then a Levite did the same, and passed by, next a good Samaritan came a long and took up the wounded man, and put his own wraps on him and took him to an Inn. Now which of those three was a neighbor to the wounded man this we shall answer later; but every christian ought to be like the Samaritan.

We are confident, that the heading of this article, will appear to the posted Oddfellow very simple especially when he looks back over a century past, and sees in London England five men joining themselves together in Oddfellowship. As clipped from a letter written by the Noble Grand Master, Hon. John H. Bryant of Burlington Junction Mo. on Dec. 1, 1911. As he said

"Do you realize that you belong to the greatest benevolent fraternal society in the world—an organization which has grown from a membership of 5 in ninety-two years to a fraternal army of 2,023,731 members?"

And then we confirm this statement by Dr. Oliver, Page 271. Please read.

"ODD-FELLOWS. INDEPENDENT ORDER OF. This Fraternity, fashioned after the model of the Masonic Brotherhood, is a widely extended and influential society. Its motto is 'Friendship, Love and Truth.' It first appeared in England, near the close of the last century, and at that time was a social and mutual relief society. It continued to increase until 1840, when, perhaps, the Order in England was in its highest stage of prosperity. It was introduced into the United States as early as 1799, at which time a Lodge was constituted in Connecticut. In 1802 it made its appearance in Baltimore, and in 1806 in New York. It did not, however, attract any attention till 1814, when Thomas Wilkey, who is styled the 'Father of American Odd Fellowship,' became an earnest propagator of the Order, and founded lodges in a large number of important places."

In those clippings we have before us, man's best authority given by man on this point, in regard to the origin of Oddfellowship. But we must say here, that Oddfellowship is covel, with the creation of man. And the grand principals of Oddfellowship, and also Freemasonry go back to the origin of the two great human families. The Gentile and the Jew. And then crosses the mighty deep, and rests in the bosom of Father and Son. And as we leave the field of the origin of Oddfellow on the sixth day Gen. 1-26-27. And pass along up the steps of time we shall fully establish our claim, by the blessed word of God: That the origin of Oddfellow was on the sixth day of God's work of creation. And that too, when God created them male and female, with no restriction on them. This without anything else, made them Oddfellows.

Then God gave them a ruling power over everything. He had no boundary line, please read:

And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

* And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed: to you it shall be for meat.

And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air; and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat; and it was so. Genes. 1-28-29-30.

Now the reader will see, that this makes this man an Oddfellow. His ruling power was from sea to sea and from the rivers unto the ends of the earth. This we must say, was not the case with the man formed from the dust of the ground after the seventh day as recorded, please read:

And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

* And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Gen 2-7-8.

This was the first Master builder on earth, and the first one to till the ground. This man had a restriction placed on him, which the sixth day man did not have. We have merely spoken of the second man to let the reader know the difference there was between him and the first man the origin of Oddfellow. And he surely was an Oddfellow, when we consider what God said about his descendants, to the descendants of the formed man, please read:

They have moved me to jealousy with that which is not God; they have provoked me to anger with their vanities; and I will move them to jealousy with those which are not a people: I will provoke them to anger with a foolish nation. Deut. 32-21.

Now if this would not make them Oddfellows, I would know of no language that could be used to tell you what an Oddfellow was. A man that is not a man would have to be an Oddfellow.

And a people that was not a people would have to be the same. Now there was, and in fact would have to be some reason, for this saying. That is, this people would have to lack something, which would make them a people, if they were in possession of what they lacked. And there is nothing more certain than they lacked something, for Isaiah said,

* Sing, O barren, thou that didst not bear, break forth into singing, and cry aloud, thou that didst not travail with child; for more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife, saith the Lord. Isa. 54-1.

Here is a people that is desolate, and they had many more children than the married wife; And the reason they had many more children than the married wife, God said to them, Be fruitful and multiply, as you see in Gen. 1-28. But God never said this to Eve, but told her after she had eaten of the forbidden fruit that in sorrow and conception she should bring forth children.

You will find this fact in Gen. 3rd. ch. And in 2nd. ch. you will find her to be the married wife. Paul referred to this same fact in this manner.

For it is written, Before, thou barren that bearest not; break forth and cry, thou that travailest not; for the desolate hath many more children than she which hath husband. Gal. 4-27.

The question now arises, who was it that was desolate, and what was they desolate of? And we answer, Of Salvation. For Paul makes this remark, please read.

I say then, (Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy.

* Now if the fall of them be the riches of the world, and the diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles; how much more their fulness.

For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I ministry unto office. Rom 11-12-13.

Here we have before us a glorious confirmation of all we have said about the origin of Oddfellow. Now the next will be to find out when the fellowship was added. And for the first plain fact on this point, we will ask you to read,

And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ, Ephes. 3-9.

* Also. That the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel. Ephes. 3-6.

And this fellowship was brought about in this manner.

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hand.

That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world.

Up now, in Christ Jesus ye, who sometime were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace, who hath made both one and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us. Ephes. 2-10-11.

Yes, the Oddfellows now are adopted into Oddfellowship.

They not only have fellowship among themselves, but now they have fellowship with the Father and the Son. Paul became the first Great Grand-master in Oddfellowship. He was first an Israelite (a Mason, a Master builder.) And in him God has shown to us the fellowship of the two great nations. In committing to him the gospel of uncircumcision, to preach it to the Gentiles. In this gospel we find the principals of fellowship set forth in this man by Paul himself, please read.

And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law;

To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law.

To the weak, as I was weak, that I might gain the weak; I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.

And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might by all means partake thereof with you. 1 Cor 9-20-21-22-23.

Why Paul, according to what some people say; you must have been wrong? For some say why no one has any right to fellowship them; or they fellowship any one else. And you Paul

when with the Jew, become as a Jew, and to them that was under the Law, as under the Law, to them that was without law as without law. Now Paul after you did this; and then said.

"For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles I ministry unto office." Rom 11-13.

And he said,

Be ye followers of me even as I also am of Christ. 1 Cor. 11-1.

Paul did you mean by this that we should fellowship all other denominations? We answer Paul meant to show us that he was talking to the Gentiles who we have traced from their origin on the sixth day as Oddfellows. The fellowship they had now in Christ Jesus and to show the grand principals of Oddfellowship in a universal Brotherhood no selfishness belongs to those principals. No narrow gauge road in those principals. They are broad with the world: For God said.

"Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created till iniquity was found in thee." Ezek. 28-15.

They are as broad as the Univers as high as the heaven and as deep as the hills. It is true that those principals were left, and men walked in by and forbidden paths. And had almost been forgotten, when Christ came from heaven leaving his fathers bosom, and died on the cross to give the fellowship to Oddfellows that they might be more perfect in all their ways, and gave Paul as the pattern to follow, and then after a lapse of time again those principals was lost sight of and trampled under foot. And then God put it in the heart of those five good Brothers in London nearly a hundred years ago, to restore them again. And the good work has prospered. But at the present there is needed an awakening. As we will show in a future article on Catholicism look for it. And now we trust that we have gave to our readers some little light on this great subject. For we wish all who read to learn this one truth that Oddfellowship is an institution of Gods own purpose.

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